

Listing of Claims:

1.       **(Currently Amended)**       An isolated DNA selected from the group consisting of:
  - (a) a DNA encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3;
  - and
  - (b) a DNA comprising ~~a~~ the coding region of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or 2.
2.       **(Cancelled)**
3.       **(Currently Amended)** An isolated DNA comprising a promoter region and ~~a~~ the coding region of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or 2.
4.       **(Previously Presented)** A vector comprising the DNA of claim 1.
5.       **(Original)** A vector comprising the DNA of claim 3.
6.       **(Original)** A host cell carrying the vector of claim 4.
7.       **(Original)** A plant cell carrying the vector of claim 4.
8.       **(Original)** A plant transformant comprising the plant cell of claim 7.
9.       **(Original)** A plant transformant that is a progeny or a clone of the plant transformant of claim 8.
10.      **(Previously Presented)** A propagation material of the plant transformant of claim 8 or 9, wherein the propagation material retains a DNA encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3 in the expressible manner.

11. **(Previously Presented)** A method for producing a plant transformant, wherein the method comprises the steps of introducing the DNA of claim 1 into a plant cell, and regenerating a plant from said plant cell.

12. **(Cancelled)**

13. **(Withdrawn)** A method for producing a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3, wherein the method comprises the steps of culturing the host cell of claim 6, and collecting a recombinant protein from said cell or the culture supernatant thereof.

14. **(Cancelled)**

15. **(Cancelled)**

16. **(Withdrawn)** A method for increasing the regeneration ability of a plant, wherein the method comprises the step of expressing the DNA of claim 1 in a cell of a plant.

17. **(Currently Amended)** An agent for ~~altering~~ increasing the regeneration ability of a plant, wherein the agent comprises a DNA encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3, or the vector of claim 4 as an active ingredient.

18. **(Withdrawn – Currently Amended)** A method for determining the regeneration ability of a plant cell, wherein the method comprises the step of detecting the expression of a DNA of claim 1 or a protein encoded by the DNA of claim 1 ~~comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3~~ in the plant cell.

19. **(Withdrawn – Currently Amended)** A method for determining the regeneration ability of a plant cell, wherein the method comprises the step of detecting the activity of a protein encoded by the DNA of claim 1 ~~comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3~~ in the plant cell.

20. **(Withdrawn – Currently Amended)** A method for improving the regeneration ability of a plant, wherein the method comprises the step of regulating the activity of an endogenous protein encoded by the DNA of claim 1 ~~comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3~~ in the plant.

21. **(Withdrawn)** A method for selecting a transformed plant cell, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

(a) introducing a plant cell with a vector comprising the DNA of claim 1 as a selection marker; and

(b) culturing the plant cell and selecting plant cells that have acquired regeneration ability.

22. **(Withdrawn – Currently Amended)** A method for ~~altering~~ increasing the regeneration ability of a plant, wherein the method comprises the step of substituting ~~the~~ endogenous DNA having the same sequence as the DNA of claim 1 in a plant by crossing.

23. **(New)** The method according to claim 16, wherein the DNA of claim 1 is expressed in a cell of a plant by crossing.